

In the interest of keeping the park as natural as possible, private vehicles are not permitted in the park, except for a 15 mile stretch of road. Buses, driven by Park Staff (who generally provide a very good commentary) are provided to tour 50+ miles into the park. Some wild animals, including caribou (reindeer), bears, moose, mountain goats, wolves and others can be seen from the bus.

Anchorage, our next destination, is at the northern end of the 100-mile-long Cook Inlet connection to the Gulf of Alaska. The Cook Inlet forms one side of the Kenai Peninsula, which is the vacation spot of Alaskans and our favorite Alaskan locale - especially, Homer. The Homer Spit is a 4.5 mile long about 100 yards wide piece of land jutting out into the mouth of Ketchikan Bay where the bay joins Cook Inlet, Homer, AK & most of the Kenai is sparsely populated and is a paradise for fishermen and tourists. Into one side of it is a man-made lagoon that is home waters for Silver (coho) and King (chinook) salmon that the city ensures is stocked. The fish naturally attract fishermen as well as eagles and even whales and seals, although these are mainly offshore from the spit. Homer is also the jumping off point for charter flights to Katmai National Park and Preserve on the other side of the Cook Inlet. Katmai is home to Brooks Falls on the Brooks River and the Bear Cam broadcasting the bears battle to catch the migrating salmon, which are mostly gone by early October.

Haines is down the coast from Valdez, but due to the AK roads, we had to go back north to Tok and Destruction Bay before heading down to the Chilkoot Inlet and Haines, site of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve where hundreds of eagles congregate for a late salmon run in the ice free waters. Again, glaciers are in the coastal mountains and are best seen by boat.

In addition to the eagle preserve, Haines has a weir installed across the Chilkoot River that channels salmon heading up-river to spawn to a narrow opening to allow counting the fish. This concentrated flow of fish attracts bears like this mother bear to get fish to feed her cubs. These three bears then decided to cross the bridge on which we were "safely" standing watching them"

Winding down our Alaska trip, it is back up the road to Whitehorse and Watson Lake, best known for its Signpost City where we and many others have left a sign on posts provided by the city attesting to their visit and where from and when. This "city" covers several acres with hundreds of signs including three from us.

Haines is down the coast from Valdez, but due to the AK roads, we had to go back north to Tok and Destruction Bay before heading down to the Chilkoot Inlet and Haines, site of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve where hundreds of eagles congregate for a late salmon run in the ice free waters. Again, glaciers are in the coastal mountains and are best seen by boat.

In addition to the eagle preserve, Haines has a weir installed across the Chilkoot River

that channels salmon heading up-river to spawn to a narrow opening to allow counting the fish. This concentrated flow of fish attracts bears like this mother bear to get fish to feed her cubs. These three bears then decided to cross the bridge on which we were "safely" standing watching them"

Winding down our Alaska trip, it is back up the road to Whitehorse and Watson Lake, best known for its Signpost City where we and many others have left a sign on posts provided by the city attesting to their visit and where from and when. This "city" covers several acres with hundreds of signs including three from us.

As you may have gathered, I LOVE Alaska and have really enjoyed our trips there. Yes, it is a long trip from Tennessee and, previously, Florida, but even Sharon concurs that it is a great trip and a beautiful place to visit! We have actually toyed with moving there for a year....no, not permanently for we do really love our little home on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee!

As I said at the beginning, this has likely been our last RV trip to Alaska, but we're very glad we made it!

'60

Life Membership: 70%
Donor Participation: 29.71%

Pres: **RADM Peter G. Chabot, USN (Ret.)**
p: 443-624-0094; e: pgchabot60@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **CAPT Douglas M. Johnston Jr., USNR (Ret.)**

Treas: **CAPT Geoege W. Dowell III, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **Bill Lewis**
1300 S Hwy. A1A Unit 508, Jupiter, FL 33477
p: 804-334-6353; e: bilewis@comcast.net

Webmaster: **Richard Harper**
p: 805-583-1640; e: Richard.Harper@1960.USNA.com

Website: <http://www.1960.usnaclass.net>

A little commentary from **Jim "Tug" Knorr (20):**

✉ "Did either of you, **Ken Batchellor (12)** or **Jack Lynch (11)**, tell me that you got into Naval Academy under Public Law 586 or number similar? I did, and recently I read in a document from USNA saying that my home of record is Rapid City, South Dakota because those NAAA hoods that got me an appointment from Congressman E.C. Berry of S.D. must have told record keepers that David James Knorr came from Rapid City, SD not Scranton, PA. On 17 June 2022 I am giving a career speech to one of my 5th Grade Grandson's Class in Annapolis and am "thinking" of a way to challenge class, or their parents, to somehow deal with someone at USNA Record Keeping to get my Home of Record correct!

I just hope they don't go way back and find that I lived in Mountains in Moscow, PA but was born in Scranton, PA!

"Tug"

We've had several notes in our column over the last few years regarding Charles "Butch" Khoury (14) and his marathon accomplishments. As some of you may know, we lost Butch this past fall. His input and comments will be missed. **John Sammon (15)** has informed us of Butch's passing in November. Remembering him at his wedding - Butch and his wife, Eberly.



Eberly and Butch

From **Rob Kunkle (10):**

✉ Bill, I noticed your "plea for mail" in this latest issue and wondered if I told you the story of my arrival in Yokosuka back in 1960? Memories fade and issues get lost so I can't find this issue and tell if I told you this story? If this story was included in the large, nice article you published on me a month ago - please disregard!

The USS Hubbard DD748 took advantage of a new ensign coming aboard and sent me to a lot of "professional" courses, including fire-fighting, in San Diego prior to flying to the ship. Of course, they were "checking off boxes" on their latest admin inspection!

When I did, finally, arrive in Yokosuka and checked in, the Hubbard was at sea. Of course, they could not tell me when she would return so I was told to walk to the BOQ and wait - they would call me!! Walking along I ran into a 3/C Midshipman, in uniform, who was also walking in my direction. Turned out to be Griffith, a swimmer at the training table next to our track table. He suggested that I just come stay with them rather than the BOQ. "Them" turned out to be V.Adm. Griffith and family, living in the "big house on the hill"!

Just my luck, the Admiral also had two daughters, ages 21 and 23 who were home for the Summer. The four of us toured Yokosuka and Tokyo and had a great 2-3 days. One evening at dinner, sitting next to the Admiral, he said: "Oh, Rob, I ran into Bob O'Reilly (my skipper) down at the pier today and he said that anytime you want to come on down to the ship it would be okay with him!"

Obviously, I went right away and received a lot of ribbing from my new shipmates in after

officer's quarters! Their main thrust was "Rob, promotion to Ltjg is automatic in 18 months, you don't have to date the Admiral's daughters!"

From **Cal Sutliff (20)**:

✉ "Bill, just back from competing in the US Rowing National Championships in Sarasota, FL in August. I won four Golds in four events in my age class, including the Open Class and the Light Weight Single, plus the Open and Light Weight Doubles. I'm retiring from training and competitions the end of this year so I can give my unbelievably supportive wife, Linda, a break. I've been active in competitive rowing in this wonderful sport and community for 22years. Cal"



Cal Sutliff Rower extraordinaire

From **John Schmidt (20)**:

✉ "SoCal 60 recently met for lunch in beautiful downtown Coronado. Present were **John Pethick (9)**, Glee & **John Schmidt (20)**, Jan Shaw, Pam & **Mike Fenn (4)**, Sue & **Sam Ward (8)**, Avery Hallowell (3), Charlotte & **Bob Stevenson (2)**, and **Denis Crawford (2)**.

From **Rod Friedmann (5)**:

✉ "Bill, our Hampton Rhodes/Williamsburg groups converged at a trendy restaurant in Virginia Beach, called the New River Taphouse, last fall, Voting Day in Virginia: The place was packed with hungry post and potential voters.



'60: SoCal Group

I was unable to attend due to "the bug". Thanks to **Bob Ianucci (16)** for "herding the cats" and getting an accurate headcount (11) and to **Al Whitaker (16)** for the writeup.

From **AL Whitaker (16)**: Attending were Bert Johnson (10), Ed Clexton (10), Jim Eilertsen (21), Bob Brenton (12), Bob Ianucci (16), Henry Von Kolnitz (22), Jack Suddath (6), Bob Osmon (17), Wick Parcels (12), Al Bissell (8) and yours truly.

Bob Ianucci (16) gave the Binnacle list reporting on the serious condition of **Bill Kee (9)**. I gave an update on the Class Christmas Dinner which will be held soon at our favorite Williamsburg restaurant, Le Yaca. As of the end of lunch a total 31 diners said they will attend. The total consists of classmates, spouses, widows, daughters and dates. **Jack Greenhalgh (9)** is getting tickets for the Williamsburg Annual Christmas Concert (Sunday, 2:30 PM) immediately followed by dinner at Sal's by Victor, set up by **Bob Antonio (14)**, also in Williamsburg. The Williamsburg Christmas Parade is also that evening (Sunday, 5PM). It will provide another opportunity for a Christmas celebration. Al

Unfortunately, our photographer was absent and the Deputy Cat Herder forgot to take a photo, but I'm certain you can imagine the joyous event. Rod

From **Doug Johnston (5)**:

✉ "We began our November DC luncheon with a series of toasts: (1) to **Gene Tucker (9)** and Dolly, who have moved out of the immediate vicinity and won't be able to attend future luncheons. Gene did a great job of hosting our lunches before passing the baton about 7 years ago; (2) to **George Dowell (19)** who lets us lean on his Army/Navy Club membership to provide the venue for the lunches; (3) to Dureen for handling the logistics for our gatherings; and (4) to **Bud Pezet (13)**, who sent best wishes from his hospital bed, while recovering from back surgery the day before (successful as it turned out, probably because of our toast).

The lunch itself was dedicated to socializing and telling sea stories. In addition to our customary discussion of how Navy is faring on

the gridiron these days, mention was also made of lacrosse, with specific reference to Navy's National Championship in 1960. That success led to a "decade of dominance" in which Navy walked away with all the marbles for eight years in a row. Two members of our lunch group who played starring roles on that first championship team were **Dick Pariseau (1)**, who captained the team (and along with **Karl Rippelmeyer (11)** shared All-American honors), and **Hank Chiles (21)**, who in partnership with Karl, led Navy's scoring from their Attack positions. Since both Dick and Hank were absent from the lunch, they were spared the embarrassment of listening to all the accolades.

Joining in the fun were Kathy and **Gary Cogdell (7)**, Martha and **George Dowell (19)**, **Dennis Hickey (22)**, Jeanne and **Tom Solak (2)**, Charlotte and **Bob Stevenson (2)**, Amalia and **Duane Tollaksen (3)**, **Bob Traister (2)**, Dureen and yours truly.

A week or so later, I was on the phone with **Randy McHenry (7)**, who owns the hotel in New Smyrna Beach, FL, which served as the headquarters for our first mini-reunion this past February. His hotel, which is on the beach, took quite a hit from one of the several hurricanes to hit Florida this year and is currently shut down for about six months of repairs. As those who attended will recall, he and his wife Sheri were incredibly gracious hosts throughout the reunion and gave all of us a significant break on the room costs. Despite the setback, Randy was in great spirits and even offered to host another reunion next year. Yet one more example of the "super" in Super Sixty. Doug

'61

Life Membership: 72%

Donor Participation: 33.18%

Pres: **RADM Jerome F. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.)**

Corr Sec'y: **CAPT Bob Sherer, USN (Ret.)**

2301 River Crescent Dr., Annapolis MD 21401

p: 410-266-1334 voice and text

e: enavant1305@icloud.com; sherer@1961.usna.com

Webmaster: **Howard Winfree**

e: winfree@1961.usna.com

Website: www.USNA61.org

Dear Classmates,

With winter behind us can Graduation be far away?

Bill Straight (16) continues the saga of his Vietnam River Patrol days in 1968.

✉ "We patrolled the Long Tau and Soi Rap rivers with three other River Sections based there. The area was called the Rung Sat, translated as Jungle of the Killers (The Pirates who raided ships). The Long Tau is the main river from the South China Sea that takes cargo into the port of Saigon. Convoys of several supply ships transiting from anchorage at Vung Tau to Saigon would be guarded by PBRs through the five patrol stations on the river. Some 80% of